

What does it cost and what options are available for those who want to search when an adoption was finalized in Maryland?

1. There are a variety of options available through Adoption Search, Contact and Reunion Services Administrative fees are listed below. Upon request, fees may be reduced or waived for those with verified income at, or below the national poverty level.

Gross Income	Mutual Consent Voluntary Adoption Registry Only	Adoption Search Services Only	Both Services
\$ 0 - 23,690	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0
\$ 23,691 - 29,730	\$ 10	\$ 10	\$ 20
\$ 29,731 - 40,000	\$ 15	\$ 15	\$ 25
\$ 40001 and up	\$ 25	\$ 25	\$ 45

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3. Once you have paid the administrative fee to the State for either the Registry or Adoption Search Services, you are never charged a fee for that service again.

If you are only interested in receiving **non-identifying** medical/family heritage background information collected at the time of the adoptees placement, or updated **non-identifying** medical/family heritage background information, you may apply for Adoption Search Services only.
4. If you are interested in receiving both **non-identifying** and/or **identifying** information, you may apply for the Mutual Consent Voluntary Adoption Registry and Adoption Search Services.
5. If you are requesting contact and reunion with the person(s) being sought, there is an incremental search fee for Confidential Intermediary services. Upon request, fees may be reduced or waived for those with verified income at, or below the national poverty level. Fees include compensation to the agency employing the certified Confidential Intermediary and reimbursement for search related expenses such as: counseling (up to three sessions), mileage, document retrieval, forms, postage, telephone calls and professional database services.

Gross Income	Documented Emergency Medical	Non-ID Heritage Info From Case Record	Updated Non-ID Heritage Info	Search and Reunion with One Parent or One Adoptee	Search and Reunion with Two Parents or Two Adoptees
\$ 0 - 23,690	\$ 0	\$ 50	\$ 100	\$ 175	\$ 200
\$ 23,691 - 29,730	\$ 0	\$ 75	\$ 150	\$ 250	\$ 300
\$ 29,731 - 40,000	\$ 0	\$ 85	\$ 175	\$ 300	\$ 425
\$ 40001 and up	\$ 0	\$ 100	\$ 200	\$ 325	\$ 450

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7. Fees do not include the expense for the recommended initial assessment out of state applicants and individuals being sought.
8. The search will not begin until you complete the initial assessment interview, enter into a Service Agreement and provide half of the payment for the services being requested.
9. Once the search begins, the Confidential Intermediary is required to report the search outcome within 90 days. If information needed to complete the search is outstanding, the Confidential Intermediary may suggest modifying the Service Agreement to allow an additional 90 days. No additional fees will be charged to extend the service agreement for this 90-day period.
10. The Confidential Intermediary will send you a written summary of findings after full payment has been received for the services rendered.
11. If you requested higher level services within one year from the date the Service Agreement ends, you will only pay for the higher level service.

Example: You enter into a Service Agreement with a Confidential Intermediary on October 10, 1999. You wanted non-identifying heritage information contained in the case record at the time of the adoptee's placement. The cost for this service was \$100.00. The requested information was provided on December 5, 1999. On July 6, 2000, you decide you are interested in meeting one birth parent. The fee for this service is \$325.00. Since it has been less than one year from the date your Service Agreement ended, you will only be charged \$200.00.